

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

~~/~~ Applicant: **Krieger et al.**

~~/~~ Case: **A-67845/JAS**

~~/~~ Serial No.: **09/489,293**

~~/~~ Filed: **January 21, 2000**

~~/~~ Examiner: **Julio C. Gonzalez**

Group Art Unit: **2834**

Title: **HYDRODYNAMIC SPINDLE MOTOR USING WELDING SEALING
TECHNIQUE**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

S I R:

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 3, 2002 (Paper No. 17), please
amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

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IN THE CLAIMS

AUG 30 2002

Please amend claims 1 and 8 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A spindle motor for use in a disc drive comprising a shaft supporting a thrust plate at one end thereof,
a sleeve surrounding the shaft and adjacent the thrust plate and cooperating with the shaft to define a journal bearing and the thrust plate to define a fluid thrust bearing,
a counterplate welded to said sleeve and located adjacent said thrust plate,
the welded counterplate containing fluid within the thrust bearing and the journal bearing.